

INFORMATION
OF
SPECIAL INTEREST
OR
IMPORTANCE
TO
MARINERS

NM 42/04

HYDROGRAM

**National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Bethesda, MD 20816-5003**

SPECIAL
ANNOUNCEMENTS
NEW PRODUCTS
OR SERVICES
IMPORTANT
CHANGES

16 October 2004

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NOTICE TO MARINERS CHANGE IN DISTRIBUTION

THE NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (NGA) IS TRANSITIONING FROM PRODUCING AND DISTRIBUTING HARD COPY NAUTICAL SAFETY PRODUCTS TO DIGITAL DISSEMINATION. EFFECTIVE WITH U.S. NOTICE TO MARINERS NUMBER 1, 2005, NGA WILL NO LONGER DISTRIBUTE HARD COPY VERSIONS OF THE WEEKLY NOTICE TO MARINERS AND WILL MAKE THEM AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE VIA THE INTERNET. SEE SECTION III.

NOAA CHART NEW EDITIONS AND THEIR AVAILABILITY

NOAA RECOGNIZES TWO NAUTICAL CHART PRODUCTS: CHARTS-ON-DEMAND AND TRADITIONAL NOAA/NOS PAPER CHARTS. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, SEE SECTIONS II AND III.

TIDAL CURRENT PREDICTION QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM- HUDSON RIVER

NEW OBSERVATIONS SHOWED SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN THE TIMING OF THE TIDAL CURRENT PHASES COMPARED TO THE EXISTING PREDICTIONS FOR HAVERSTRAW, NEW YORK. SEE SECTION III.

DISCONTINUANCE OF 121.5 AND 243 MHZ FOR SATELLITE DISTRESS ALERTS TO BEGIN

THE INTERNATIONAL COSPAS-SARSAT PROGRAM HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS TO TERMINATE SATELLITE PROCESSING OF DISTRESS SIGNALS FROM 121.5 AND 243 MHZ EMERGENCY BEACONS. SEE SECTION III.